(c) Rs. 89,213-9-2 under Public Works and Rs. 2,018 under Panchayats.

(d) Lists of the roads travelled by the Diwan and the Chief Engineer are appended. (*Vide Appendix II.*)

(e) The condition of the roads is noted in the lists.

(f) The executive officers concerned were given instructions to attend to the repairs.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Sub-division (a). The unsatisfactory condition of most of the roads in the State. What is the present condition? Whether the answer is about the condition at the time when the question was received or the present condition?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—At the time when the question was answered.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know the approximate date?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—26th July, by the end of July.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What was the condition in the month of Mithunam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Not very far from that. Almost the same condition.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Whether the car of the Chief Engineer got into the rut when he was travelling along the road in the month of Mithunam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I do not remember.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know why half of the allotment was spent for maintenance though we are at the close of the year?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We have not yet paid for the collection of the metal. It will be paid only by the end of Karkadagam. We have got one month more.

Opening of a canal for the use of cultivation in Puthenpadam lands.

287. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.— (a) Will the Government be pleased to state if a petition, dated 14th Edavam 1104, was received by the Government from the inhabitants of Kuzhuppilli and Pallipuram villages in Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk complaining of the delay in the construction of a canal for the use of cultivation in Puthenpadam lands; if so, what is it;

(b) what was the cost of this work as estimated in the budget for 1099, Irrigation original, No. 5, and how far did the work proceed;

(c) what is the cause of the subsequent delay to carry out the work?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes. The petition is a request for opening of a canal to drain away excess

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water from over 8,000 *paras* of lands in Puthenpadam and to let in fresh water, for the benefit of the lands.

(b) Rs. 18,000. The work was not carried out.

(c) The Government decided that the work could not be undertaken then or in the near future owing to the excessive cost of land acquisition.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know whether Mr. Bhore as Diwan had made a local investigation and recorded that this work must be taken up?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was this work investigated by Messrs. Browning and Krishnan Nair as Chief Engineers?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes, and an estimate was prepared by them.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—What was the order of the Sarvadhikariakar in A. No. 924 of 99, dated 24th March 1924, about this work?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was not the Chief Engineer ordered to proceed with the work in the year 1099?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I want notice for that.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja—(c) 'Owing to the excessive cost of land acquisition'. What was the estimate of the land acquisition?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Rs. 11,000.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is the amount of Rs. 11,000 considered to be excessive by the Government?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Plantations by Europeans.

288. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—(1) Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement showing the receipts for the last ten years from Planters' estates under land tax and under other heads;

(2) what is the total outlay of the Government during the last ten years on account of the Planters' estates through the Public Works Department and other administrative Departments?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—(1) A statement showing the receipts for the last ten years from the Planters' estates under quit rent collected by the Land Revenue and Forest Departments is placed on the Council Table. There are no receipts under any other head from the estates.

(2) A sum of Rs. 66,198-3-11 was spent towards the upkeep of the Nelliampathi and Edathingalpadom roads during the last 10 years.

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